November 26 2026, 09:00 (CET)



Three-quarters of solar panel owners feel penalised for investing in solar panels

Trust in energy suppliers falls among almost half of solar panel owners

Rotterdam, 26 November 2026 – Three-quarters of Dutch solar panel owners feel penalised for investing in solar panels as the net metering scheme comes to an end. In addition, 70 per cent are concerned about charges for exporting the solar electricity they generate to the grid. For almost half (45%), this has led to a decline in trust in energy suppliers. These are the findings of a survey of 1,000 Dutch solar panel owners commissioned by EnergyZero, which pioneered dynamic energy tariffs for households in the Netherlands.

The net metering scheme will end on 1 January 2027. From that date, solar panel owners will no longer be able to offset the electricity they export to the grid against the electricity they draw from it. They will still be paid for the electricity they export,

but, depending on their energy contract, they may also have to pay export charges. The net financial outcome varies by energy supplier and contract.

Declining trust in energy suppliers

The feeling of being 'penalised' is mainly reflected in solar panel owners' concerns about facing higher costs from 2027 onwards. For example, 71 per cent expect their household's annual energy costs to rise. In addition, 70 per cent are concerned about the export charges they will have to pay when feeding surplus electricity into the grid.

Almost half (45%) of solar panel owners say they will have less trust in energy suppliers from 2027 onwards. More than two-thirds (69%) also feel that the government is not providing enough clarity for them to make long-term decisions about energy. In its earlier communications about the end of the net metering scheme, the Dutch government explained that, although this is a government decision, households will see the financial consequences on the bills they receive from their energy suppliers.

Hans Valk, CEO of EnergyZero, says: *"Many solar panel owners feel that the rules have changed halfway through the game. Their uncertainty is understandable, but clarity is now essential to maintaining support for the energy transition. Solar panel owners now have several options that could help offset the loss of net metering, from a dynamic energy tariff to a home battery. As an energy supplier, we want to address this uncertainty by providing clear information about costs and potential benefits, such as a gas price cap."*

Solar panels become less attractive

Many solar panel owners are pessimistic about the future of their investment. More than half (51%) expect solar panels to become less attractive for their household from 2027 onwards, with almost a quarter of all respondents (23%) expecting a sharp decline in their appeal.

When asked whether they would be willing to switch off their solar panels temporarily at certain times, owners mainly cite financial considerations. Almost two-thirds (63%) cite charges for exporting solar electricity as a reason to switch off their panels or allow them to be switched off automatically. For almost a third (32%), receiving payment for switching them off is a condition.

About The Sharing Group

TSG is een familie van tech bedrijven op het gebied van online, energy en mobility. Begonnen vanuit Nederland breidt de organisatie gestaag uit naar de rest van Europa. Altijd en overal vanuit hetzelfde vertrekpunt: meer social impact, minder impact op het milieu. TSG doet dat vanuit verschillende creatieve hubs door heel Nederland, van Rotterdam en Almere tot Amsterdam. Check website

Contact details

Joost van Rooij
CMO
The Sharing Group
pers@thesharinggroup.com

Copy link

https://press.thesharinggroup.com/276237-three-quarters-of-solar-panel-owners-feel-penalised-for-investing-in-solar-panels/